May 19 – 25, 2022 NEWS YOU CAN USE, NEWS YOU CAN TRUST 75¢

THE EAGLE

A PUBLICATION OF ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS OF MICHIGAN

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

No. 20 www.associatednewspapers.net

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE
Vol. 137, No. 20

The list of Sumpter Township owned properties going up for auction will get another close look before being sold to the highest bidder at auction.

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THE CANTON EAGLE
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The Michigan Shakespeare Festival will return to The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton for the 2022 Renaissance Season.

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THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR
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Smoke testing of the Inkster sewer system is expected to continue through Friday, May 27, according to officials from the Department of Public Works.

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THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
Vol. 22, No. 20

Five suspects attempting to flee the area were arrested by Northville Township Police following a fire at Legacy Park May 11.

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THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE
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Plymouth District Library and the Penn Theatre will welcome Edward Sarkis Balian, author of Turn the Page - The Bob Seger Story - at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 5.

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THE ROMULUS ROMAN
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Romulus resident Rita Hampton took her concerns about the Romulus Community School District to the members of the city council this month.

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THE WAYNE EAGLE
Vol. 75, No. 20

City of Wayne Police Chief Ryan Strong recently announced the promotion of Ofc. Matthew Whalen to the rank of sergeant, effective May 11.

See page 6.

THE WESTLAND EAGLE
Vol. 75, No. 20

A master social worker from Hegira Health will be on staff at Westland Police headquarters to help with calls with a mental-health component.

See page 6.

Former mayor is charged with wire fraud

Former Romulus Mayor LeRoy Burcroff is expected to plead guilty to charges of wire fraud filed against him by federal prosecutors last week. The charges follow a 10-month investigation into Burcroff's use of campaign funds and were filed in a criminal information, which indicates he will plead guilty, legal experts said.

Burcroff, 58, is accused of using campaign donations to fund his daughter's wedding. Prosecutors allege that he wired a payment of $2,400 to the Belleville Yacht Club in November of 2017 from a checking account owned by the "Committee to Elect LeRoy D. Burcroff." Deposits into the account were contributions from individuals toward the effort to have Burcroff reelected, prosecutors alleged in the formal court filings.

"In truth and in fact, however, Burcroff used more than $15,000 of the money contributed to his campaign account for his own personal benefit instead of to benefit the campaign," the criminal case reads.

In addition to the $2,400 payment, prosecutors claim that Burcroff made payments to his children, his brother and his son-in-law from the campaign account. None of those payments, however, appear in the charges filed Friday.

William Wadsworth, the longest serving member of the Romulus City Council, said he was saddened and disappointed by the charges.

"When he (Burcroff) took over the city in 2013, we were at a near all-time low. He did a lot of positive things here. He opened the parks back up, straightened out the city pensions, lowered health care costs," Wadsworth said. "I've known him a long time, more than 50 years. I knew his family," Wadsworth said. "He's my friend and this is a sad day for our city. I hope it all works out in the best way possible."

Burcroff reportedly repaid at least part of the misused campaign funding, according to his former attorney Daniel J. Wholihan, who is no longer representing him.

Romulus City Council President John Barden said he was surprised by the allegations.

"Tve known him for years and he is a good person. He was an honest mayor. I believe if he knew something was wrong, he wouldn't have participated. I knew him to always try to follow the law and I have never known him to be a person to attempt anything dishonest," Barden said.

Burcroff's criminal attorney Wally Piszczatowski released the following statement:

"If you talk to people that know LeRoy and those folks that actually worked with him at the city, (as opposed to some of his political enemies), they will tell you that LeRoy always gave 100% of his best efforts to his hometown, the city of Romulus,

LeRoy Burcroff

even giving money back to the city when it was experiencing tough financial times. LeRoy has great love for his hometown and helped turn the city around, which before his tenure, was experiencing layoffs, furloughed

See **Burcroff** , page 2

Farm Fest

Popular event returns to Maybury Farm this year

Blacksmithing, wool spinning, games, music and farm animals are but a few of the attractions at Farm Fest returning to Maybury Farm this year.

The event, postponed for two years due to the pandemic, will return to the working Northville farm from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday, June 4. The rain date is Sunday, June 5.

Farm Fest has historically been the largest summer event at Maybury Farm. There will be children's games and activities, live music by Bridge County Bluegrass Band from noon until 3 p.m., farm-life demonstrations, food trucks and barbeque, wagon rides, farm animals, and more, organizers said.

Farm Fest at Maybury Farm has been growing in popularity each year, organizers added, due primarily to the unique presentations and activities. Among the demonstrations set for this year are wool spinning by Michigan Hand Spinners Guild and Tom McClure will be educating visitors about blacksmithing.

Northville Art House volunteers and members of the Maybury Farm Garden Team will teach visitors how to make a plant container garden. Farm Fest games include milking a cow, farm animal ring toss, steer roping, and farm animal cornhole, among others.

There will be special activities that require the purchase of activity tickets including face painting, slime making, and beeswax candle making.

On the second stage, children can learn about some of the special farm animals through demonstrations with rabbits and chickens, and welcome new lambs, piglets and calves. The farm ponies will show their skill at lunging exercises in the farm arena.

The presenting sponsor for the event is Community Financial Credit Union and the band sponsor is First Merchants Bank.

Admission is $10 for Farm Fest and $13 per person with a wagon ride. Children younger than 2 are admitted at no cost. Activity tickets are available by cash only.

Farm Fest takes place at Maybury Farm, located at W. Eight Mile Road in Northville.Parking is free at Maybury Farm. The farm is operated by the Northville Community Foundation.

To learn more, visit www.maybury-farm.org or call (248) 704-9211.

Witnesses refuse prosecution in racist video post

The student who posted a racially derogatory video on social media will not face criminal prosecution.

According to a statement from the office of Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy, witnesses who received the threats which included "hanging, stomping and shooting Blacks," refused to cooperate with the prosecution of the charges.

School administrators were alerted to the video posted on social media on March 4. The 18-year-old Canton Township resident allegedly used his phone to record and post the video in which he used derogatory terms for Black people and stated that he "hated Blacks" and threatened to kill them. Parents of the suspect were called to Plymouth Canton High School by administrators and he was expelled that day. School officials notified the Canton Police Department which began an immediate investigation into the situation.

> *If the witnesses decide to change their minds, we certainly encourage them to contact the police.*

Investigators submitted a warrant package to Worthy's office on March 11 and contact was made with witnesses, according to a statement from the prosecutor's office. The witnesses refused to cooperate in the prosecution of the case. As a result, the warrant for the arrest and prosecution of the student was denied.

Worthy said the participation of the witnesses was necessary to present evidence to prosecute in the case in court.

"It is an understatement to say that the alleged statements made by the suspect are hateful and disturbing. In this case the witnesses refused to cooperate with the prosecution. Unfortunately, we could not go forward, and the case was denied. If the witnesses decide to change their minds, we certainly encourage them to contact the police," Worthy said.

Belleville - Sumpter

Trustees move forward with property auction

The list of Sumpter Township owned properties going up for auction will get another close look before being sold to the highest bidder.

Township officials, including Supervisor Tim Bowman and Trustee Matt Oddy, will review the list and descriptions of the various properties to ensure that they meet the building requirements currently in effect in the community prior to being sold.

Oddy addressed the issue during a recent meeting of the trustees noting that some of the properties were 80-feet wide and current building restrictions in the township require a larger frontage.

"These lots are next to each other and should be sold as one," he suggested. "I have a concern that if somebody thought they couldn't build on the site they might not bid on the property as some are too small. I suggest we combine a few of these and make them as much in compliance with our zoning as possible before we sell them," he said.

Bowman said the auctioneer was aware that some of the lots would sell together and had some concern about the cost of having the lots combined. "The purchaser should pay to have made as one, not the township," he said.

Clerk Esther Hurst reminded the board members that at one time the township had some difficulty in obtaining a clear title to properties, which could present a problem if they are sold.

> "What we are selling is our interest in the property.

Attorney Rob Young explained that some of the lots were quit claimed to the township by the Department of Natural Resources when property owners didn't pay taxes.

"Sometimes the paper trail doesn't catch up," he said, "but we don't get into it. If we know about an issue, we disclose it. What we are selling is our interest in the property. What we have is what the buyer gets," he said. "We're conveying what we have to you."

"I don't feel we should put something up for sale knowing it is unbuildable," Oddy said. "I think the lots should be combined when possible." He noted that previously the township had offered some of the unbuildable narrow lots to homeowners on either side of the property so they could expand their property.

The board members discussed the fees and costs for combining the lots and noted that new lot numbers and property descriptions would be necessary prior to the auction. The costs, they determined, would be included in the reserve amount at the auction, ensuring the fees would be paid at the time of the sale.

Oddy also suggested that there could be a site needed by the township to install a pump station if sewer lines went down the road.

Bowman said the township could set reserve prices on the property and "the auction company starts high. We need the money for these properties," he said.

"These lots have been on our books long enough and it is time to sell," Oddy agreed.

The board members agreed to table authorizing the sale for two weeks while officials met to determine which lots could be combined and take the appropriate action to ensure the lots met current zoning restrictions when possible.

Police chief corrects township newsletter content

The safety tips included in the recent edition of the Sumpter Township Newsletter prompted a quick response from Sumpter Township Director of Public Safety and Police Chief Eric Luke.

Luke told the members of the township board of trustees during their recent meeting that an article in the newsletter which included the safety advice was not written by him.

"It was not written by me. I never saw it and I would never present such information," he said.

He said that the information was something a township employee found on a computer originally printed in 2007. "It was a lazy copy of a 1997 web page."

> It was not written by me.
> I never saw it and I would never present such information.

Luke said he was not attempting to criticize anyone but he wanted to make it very clear that the advice purported to have come from him was more than 25 years old and probably designed for residents of a large city.

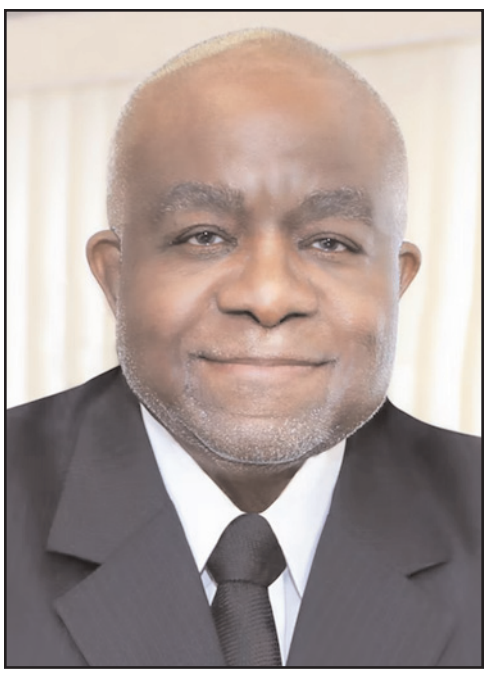
"The advice might still be relevant to someone living in a big city like Chicago but not of much value to someone here in Sumpter. I believe the article suggested people should live in fear and that is not the reality of living in the township," Luke said.

"I believe in relevant and timely information and I believe if someone was reading this they would wonder if the chief has lost touch with Sumpter Township.

"I assure you, he hasn't," Luke concluded.

Director of Public Safety Eric Luke

College chancellor is honored



Dr. Curtis L. Ivery

The American Association of Community Colleges celebrated Wayne County Community College (WCCCD) Chancellor Dr. Curtis L. Ivery recently during the Awards of Excellence gala. Ivery received the first ever CEO of the Year award from the association, which recognized his national leadership in issues of educational equity and creating opportunity for students through higher education. Ivery has served as chancellor of the Wayne County Community College District in Michigan since 1995. In his acceptance of the award, Ivery noted how over the past few years during COVID he has reflected on the work of the college to strengthen student success and equity, and the challenges ahead - but said he's "especially happy to see students returning to the college." The Ted Scott Campus of the college is located at 9555 Haggerty Road in Belleville.

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NOTICE TO QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
VACANCY ON BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees is seeking a Township resident to fill a Trustee vacancy on the Board of Trustees for a term expiring November 21, 2024.

Interested individuals must be at least 18 years of age, a U.S. Citizen, and a qualified elector of the Township. By State Law, all township elected offices are also partisan; therefore, applicants are also asked to state a political party preference in their application.

Please submit your hard-copy letter of interest, resume, and any references by Friday, May 27, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. to Clerk Jerry Vorva at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty, Plymouth MI 48170. **No email or electronic responses will be accepted.**

Depending on the number of applications accepted, in-person interviews may be conducted by the Board at a Study Session to be held Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 7 p.m. at Township Hall. In accordance with State Law, the Board of Trustees will schedule a vote to select the new Trustee on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Jerry Vorva, Clerk
Charter Township of Plymouth

Approved by the Board of Trustees 5/10/22

PT0297 - 051922 2.5 x 3.083

SYNOPSIS
SPECIAL MEETING
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DATE: Thursday, May 12, 2022
TIME: 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Abbo called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

PRESENT: Mark Abbo, Supervisor; Roger Lundberg, Clerk; Jason Rhines, Treasurer; Mindy Herrmann, Trustee; Christopher Roosen, Trustee; Cynthia Jankowski, Trustee – late

ABSENT: Scott Frush, Trustee

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

1. **Public Services – Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services** – Approved
2. **Public Services – Legacy Park Building Demolition Contract** – Approved
3. **IT – Assembly Room Digital Audio and Video Upgrade** – Approved
4. **Finance – 2023-2028 Capital Improvement Plan** – Presented
5. **Brief Public Comments:** Six members of the audience had questions or comments for the Board of Trustees.
6. **ADJOURN:** Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

A draft of the meeting minutes will be available on May 24, 2022.
Respectfully submitted:
Mark Abbo, Supervisor
Roger Lundberg, Clerk

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ROMULUS

Guests of honor

Members of the Romulus City Council and city officials gather around the Romulus High School boys' basketball team members who won both the Conference and District championships this year. Coach Herb Buckley introduced members of the team including team Captain Caleb Wilson who thanked the council for allowing the team to represent Romulus. Buckley noted that six seniors were leaving the team this year and thanked the council members for their support during the year. Photo by Roger Kadau.

School activist brings concerns to city council

Romulus resident Rita Hampton took her concerns about the Romulus Community School District to the members of the city council this month.

Hampton, who led the drive for a recall of three current school board members, addressed the city council members during the audience portion of the meeting earlier this month.

"How can the city prosper when the school district is in free fall and subject to public embarrassment. Clearly you know but remain paralyzed," she said. Hampton demanded to know "where have you been, I ask. We all ask."

Hampton was attempting to secure city officials' involvement in the current school controversy following the firing of Superintendent of Schools Dr. Benjamin Edmondson in December. His firing and surrounding administrative issues have prompted protests by school groups, parents, students and teachers at public meetings along with resignations of administrative personnel in the district.

"So here we sit after his (Edmondson's) departure in December with a former emergency manager serving as interim superintendent making $6,000 a week, the second highest paid superintendent in the state. With his expertise and networking and alignment with the board, we have an interim executive director of finance, an interim director of instruction, an interim director of human resources, an interim director of technology and two interim administrators at middle schools," Hampton said.

> *When you have a failing school district you will slowly suffocate the community.*

"As we are public servants, I ask if you don't serve the kids and their well-being, then who are we going to serve. If not for their future, then for the preservation of our community. When you have a failing school district you will slowly suffocate the community," she said.

Members of the council responded to Hampton during a later portion of the meeting agenda, noting that the city officials had nothing to do with the operation or management at the school district and had no authority under law to interfere or act in the situation.

They were, they explained, elected by voters to represent their interests at the city level, not in the schools and had no authority to take any leadership role in the school district.

Councilman William Wadsworth was obviously taken aback by Hampton's criticism of the council noting that he was a 55-year resident of the community and had three sons who were educated in the Romulus schools along with four grandsons and had always supported the school district.

"I campaigned for school millages and got negative feedback for it," Wadsworth said. "I don't want to leave the impression with people that we don't do anything. I've done a lot for the schools as a parent and a supporter," he said, noting that the school district was a separate and autonomous entity in which city officials have no authority.

Police, firemen to play basketball for charity

First responders from the Romulus Police and Fire departments will show their hoops skill during a charity basketball game set for 1 p.m. this Sunday, May 22, at Romulus High School.

The officers and firefighters will face a team from Royalty Empowerment, a group of young people on a First Responders Tour. The tour is an effort to bridge the gap between law enforcement and youth in urban and undeserved communities.

The game will be the first fundraiser dedicated to the annual Shop with a Cop event which helps local families during the holidays. Last year, Shop with a Cop helped fund holiday gift shopping for 54 children in Romulus, police officers said.

"We would like to build on that momentum by offering even more children the opportunity open gifts this Christmas," they added.

Raffle prizes at the Sunday game will include, becoming "City Official for the Day" for children 7-11 years old. The winning student will have the chance to experience a day as mayor, chief of police, director of fire service or a 34th District Court judge. Other prizes include a Nintendo Switch, various gift baskets and other items.

Romulus High School is located at 9650 Wayne Road. Admission is $5, children younger than 5 will be admitted at no cost.

Burcroff

FROM PAGE 1

employees and closed parks. In fact, LeRoy has given nearly a quarter century of dedicated and honorable service to the city - a fact which no one that truly knows him will dispute."

Burcroff was reelected as mayor in 2017 but opted not to seek reelection last November and was succeeded by former Director of Economic Development and Public Service Robert McCraight.

The charges are punishable by up to 20 years in federal prison.

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Brian Harris
Owner

ROMULUS SPRING 2022
CITY WIDE YARD SALE
Participating Addresses
Thurs., May 19th, 2022 - Sun., May 22nd, 2022

Street #	Street Name	Thurs. 5/19	Fri. 5/20	Sat. 5/21	Sun. 5/22
35550	ABBEY	X	X	X	X
32865	AUGUSTA CT			X	X
32045	AUGUSTA DR	X	X	X	X
31856	AUGUSTA DR			X	X
37600	BARTH	X	X	X	X
37710	BARTH	X	X	X	X
38820	BARTH	X	X	X	
38446	BARTH		X	X	
35565	BEVERLY			X	
36657	BIBBINS	X	X	X	X
15714	BRANDT		X	X	X
16491	BRANDT		X	X	X
15702	BRANDT		X	X	
30536	CALFORNIA AVE.	X	X	X	X
7838	CANTERBURY DR		X	X	
37523	CASTLE	X	X	X	X
9468	CHAMBERLAIN	X	X	X	X
30192	CHERRY AVE	X	X	X	X
9418	COGSWELL			X	X
15311	COLBERT		X	X	X
15428	COLBERT	X	X	X	
35644	CONCORD DR		X	X	X
6380	CORDELL		X	X	X
35857	CYPRESS		X	X	X
28525	FORESTDALE				X
6090	FOURTH	X	X	X	X
6329	FOURTH	X	X	X	
11088	GABRIEL		X	X	
35541	GARNER	X	X	X	X
32325	GATEWAY DR		X	X	X
36643	GODDARD			X	X
37101	GODDARD			X	
8950	GROVER	X	X	X	X
30523	HALECREEK	X	X	X	X
12751	HARRISON	X	X	X	X
15057	HARRISON			X	X
36950	HERMAN	X	X	X	X
6351	HEYER			X	X
16269	HILLSBRIAR DR		X		X
11376	HUNT		X	X	X
15701	HURON RIVER DR	X	X	X	
38770	HURON RIVER DR			X	X
15436	INKSTER	X	X	X	X
29063	LEROY			X	X
7056	LORENZ			X	X
34336	LYNN			X	X
34426	LYNN DR		X	X	
9622	MARC	X	X	X	X
16688	MARY GRACE LN	X	X	X	X
34700	MCBRIDE	X	X	X	X
15304	MEADOW	X	X	X	X
28487	MEADOW CT	X	X	X	X
37225	MENTON		X	X	
37243	MENTON	X	X	X	
34717	MICHELLE DR	X	X	X	
36725	NEVILLE		X	X	
14778	NEW YORK			X	X
38997	NOTTINGHAM	X	X	X	
38752	NOTTINGHAM		X	X	
28774	PENNSYLVANIA			X	X
30220	PENNSYLVANIA		X	X	X
29060	RIVEROAK DR			X	X
10067	ROMAINE	X	X	X	
10033	ROMAINE	X	X	X	X
35541	RONALD		X	X	X
15612	SANDBURG			X	X
6036	SECOND			X	X
33319	SIENNA DR	X	X	X	
33331	SIENNA DR	X	X	X	X
33343	SIENNA DR	X	X	X	X
33296	SIENNA DR	X	X	X	X
7951	SILO	X	X	X	X
15685	SPRINGHILL		X	X	X
10048	STERLING	X	X	X	
10130	STERLING		X	X	X
6087	SWAN LAKE	X	X	X	
15806	TAFT		X	X	
15598	TAFT	X	X	X	
38101	TYLER	X	X	X	X
37600	TYLER	X	X	X	
38548	TYLER			X	X
37665	TYLER	X	X		
38455	VAN BORN	X	X	X	X
38440	WADE			X	X
38701	WADE		X	X	
38162	WALNUT	X	X	X	X
38020	WALNUT			X	X
9298	WASHINGTON	X	X	X	X
9416	WASHINGTON	X	X	X	X
11100	WAYNE APT. 301	X	X	X	X
11121	WAYNE RD	X	X	X	
38136	WESTVALE	X	X	X	X
34529	WICK	X	X	X	X
16208	WILDFOX CT	X	X	X	X
15115	WOODMONT	X	X	X	X
15144	WOODMONT			X	X
15101	WOODMONT	X	X	X	X

Canton - Plymouth

Shakespeare Festival returns to Canton stage

The Michigan Shakespeare Festival, the official Shakespeare Festival of the State of Michigan, announced the return of the MainStage Festival Season to The Village Theater at Cherry Hill for the 2022 Renaissance Season. Season tickets for 2022 are on sale now at www.cantonvillagetheater.org or by calling The Village Theater Box Office at (734)394-5300.

The Michigan Shakespeare Festival, like many professional arts organizations, went dark due to COVID, which is why Artistic Director Janice L Blixt says the entire organization is looking upon 2022 as a renaissance - a true rebirth - for the Michigan Shakespeare Festival. For the first time in its 27-year history, the festival will be performing the entire run at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. "We're so pleased that our home in Canton is welcoming us back for 2022, and we're thrilled to be able to rehearse and tech and open our shows at the Village Theatre," Blixt said. The three MainStage shows will be the heroic and epic drama Henry V, featuring Ann Arbor native and festival favorite Sam Hubbard as the king, the bubbly bright comedy The Merry Wives of Windsor being directed by award-winning Artistic Associate Robert Kauzlaric, and the silly farce Charley's Aunt by Brandon Thomas featuring Edmund Alyn Jones.

Focusing on the events prior to and following the famous Battle of Agincourt, Henry V tells the story of one of Britain's greatest kings - and the man behind the title. The final piece of Prince Hal's story first played out in Henry IV, parts one and two where audiences saw the wild and angry young man as he grew into a leader of men. One of Shakespeare's most famous histories, Henry V features some of the most famous scenes and speeches in the cannon. The show is directed by Blixt

Mistress Page and Mistress Ford have a very large problem - a drunken rogue who won't leave them alone. Sir John Falstaff is short of money and on the hunt for a lady willing to take him on and pay his bills. The ladies get together and hatch a hilarious plan to thwart the pest - if only their husbands are able to stay out of the way. The Merry Wives Of Windsor is famously the result of Queen Elizabeth I demanding that Shakespeare write a play featuring Falstaff falling in love - and how else could such a request play out?

Jack and Charley have fallen in love with Kitty and Amy - who are being sent away to Scotland by Amy's uncle - who is also Kitty's guardian. The guys invite their loves to lunch - where they intend to declare their intentions and meet Charley's slightly eccentric Aunt Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez. What follows is a wacky, silly, romantic comedy full of starchy relatives, clever servants, and Lord Fancourt Babberley. Charley's Aunt was a sensation upon opening, running 1,466 performances.

The third show on the Canton calendar is a classical play from a playwright other than Shakespeare.

The 2022 season is being partially supported by the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts / Arts Works Program.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton. For more information, show times and dates, visit the MSF website: www.michiganshakespearefestival.com.

Farmers Market reopens at Preservation Park

Area residents welcomed the Canton Farmers Market last Sunday as the first market of the season took place at Preservation Park, located at 500 N. Ridge Road in Canton.

The market will take place from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. every Sunday, rain or shine, through Oct. 16, with the exceptions of July 3 and Sept. 4, officials said.

"We're excited to kick off our new season of the Canton Farmers Market, where there really is something for everyone," said Canton Farmers Market Coordinator Christa Williams. "Our markets continue to be a popular family destination where folks can enjoy plenty of great merchandise, fresh food, live music, and special activities."

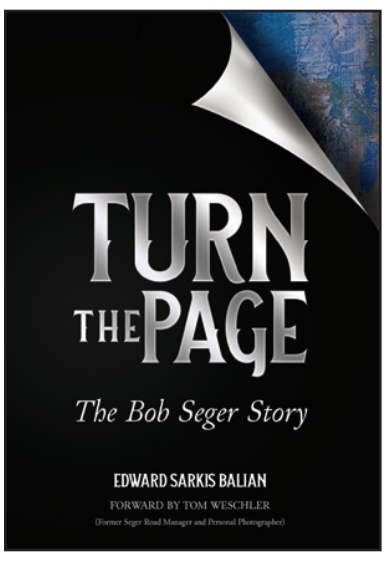
New and returning vendors this season include: Baubles by Barb featuring jewelry; BeGreen Microgreens, featuring microgreens and organic herbs; Bittersweet Garden & Bakery, featuring baked goods; Boblin Honey, featuring a variety of honey and bees wax; Don't Worry Bead Happy, featuring jewelry; Gateway Farms, featuring various produce; Good Times Kettle Corn, featuring Kettle corn; Gregg Stennett, featuring cutting boards; Hall's Herb Garden, featuring tomatoes, peppers, herbs, other various produce; Indigo & Jade, featuring bath and body products; Jessica's Confectionery, featuring chocolate-dipped treats; Joe's Baked Wells, featuring baked goods and dry mixes; Kapnick Orchards, featuring various produce; Kapolnek Farms, LLC., featuring meats such as beef, pork, chicken, lamb, and snack sticks; Keith + Co., featuring candles, wax melts, car fresheners, bubble scoops, whipped soap, and lip balms; Lula Bre's Sweet Eats, featuring jams, jellies, fudge, and fruit bars; Madison's Closet & Farm, featuring produce, jams, suckers, cookies, and butters; Nemeth Farms, featuring various produce; Parts, featuring wooden sculptures; Pastries and Pasta, featuring scones, pasta, meringue and cookies; Pick Michigan, featuring various produce; Planted Detroit, featuring ready-to-eat salads; Quilty Things by Val M, featuring quilts, and bags; SkinCare SocialClub, featuring body care; Spice Grrrl, featuring spices; The Cheese People of Grand Rapids, featuring gourmet cheeses; Uniquely Different, featuring jewelry, bracelets, diffusers, and oils; and Waltz Cherry Tomatoes, featuring seedlings and cherry tomatoes.

For more information about the Canton Farmers Market visit www.canton-mi.org/496, follow on Facebook @CantonFarmers Market or on Instagram @CantonFarmersMarketMI, or email cantonfarmersmarket@canton-mi.org.

Seger biographer to speak in Plymouth

Plymouth District Library and the Penn Theatre will welcome Edward Sarkis Balian, author of Turn the Page - The Bob Seger Story - the first and only complete biography written about the rock legend's life and career. The multi-media program will be presented at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 5.

Turn the Page tracks Seger's music career from his earliest days, the Silver Bullet Band to his 2019 national tour. The book features inside stories and relates numerous interviews over the years regarding Seger's composing, changing band personnel, recording sessions, all tours, and his very private personal life. Balian grew up in Detroit and was in a local band at the same time as Seger. Still today a recording musician, Balian put together Turn the Page out of great respect for Seger and with a steady eye toward accuracy and quality, he said.



Bob Seger

This event is free and open to the general public and will take place at the Penn Theatre at 760 Penniman Ave. in Plymouth. The theatre allows for a larger audience at this special event, a spokesman said. Attendees must register on the event calendar at plymouthlibrary.org. Books will be available for purchase.

The historic Penn Theatre seats 402 and offers a unique single-screen cinema experience featuring current second run movies, independent films, classic film festivals, school field trips and occasional live musical performances.

The Penn Theatre is managed by the Friends of the Penn, a federally recognized non-profit organization.

Treasure hunt

Rotary hosts trunk sale

The first of a series of Trunk Sales sponsored by the Plymouth Rotary AM members is set for this Sunday, May 22.

The sale will take place in the parking lot at the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex (PARC) s the first monthly event which is planned for the fourth Sunday of each month through October. The sale includes children's item, Tupperware, pottery, antiques, collectibles, clothing, purses and many other items, organizers said.

Food trucks are expected to be on site during the day-long event.

Vendors are still be sought for the event. Fee is $25 per and sellers can bring a table or sell items right from the vehicle truck. To register, contact rotaryamsale@gmail.com.

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59. Auctions

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10 BUIC LACROSSE C
1G4GE5EV2AF295274
05 DODG MAGNUM SXT
2D4FV48VX5H125581
19 HYUN ELANTRA SE
5NPD74LF0KH497772
09 DODG JOURNEY SX
3D4GG57V59T134675
08 HOND CIVIC LX
2HGFA16598H354351
05 HOND ODYSSEY LX
5FNRL38265B068110
14 CHEV CRUZE LT
1G1PC5SB9E7269767
17 CHRY 300 LIMITE
2C3CCAAG3HH665055
92 CHEV P30
1GBKP37N6N3306587
14 CHEV CRUZE LT
1G1PE5SB5E7165870
13 HYUN ELANTRA GT
KMHD35LE1DU103189
07 CHEV HHR LT
3GNDA33P57S583524
06 DODG CHARGER SE
2B3KA43G66H487023
15 CHRY 300 LIMITE
2C3CCAAG1FH755625
06 HOND CR-V LX
JHLRD68566C002781
10 GMC TERRAIN SL
2CTFLGEW7A6358037
10 TOYT CAMRY BASE
4T1BF3EK4AU057133
13 SUBA IMPREZA PR
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11 FORD ESCAPE XLT
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89 GMC SIERRA C15
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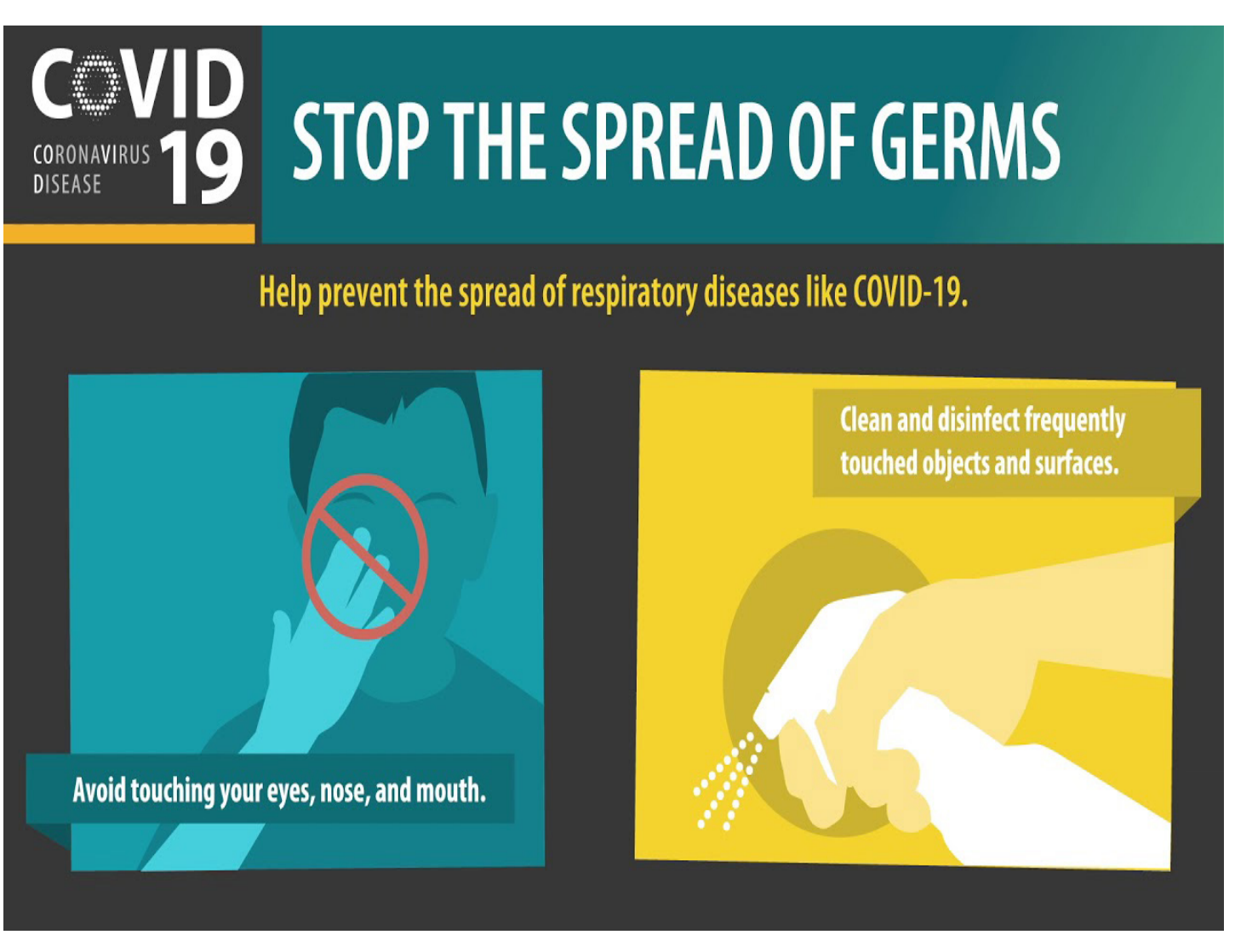
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INKSTER - WAYNE - WESTLAND

Smoke testing of sewer system continues

Smoke testing of the Inkster sewer system is expected to continue through Friday, May 27, according to officials from the Department of Public Works.

The smoke test is performed to locate breaks and defects in the city sewer system are being performed by work crews from Alfred Benesch & Co., engineers for the city. The crews are using a high-capacity blower on manholes and smoke is blown through the sewer system to detect potential entry points for stormwater to enter the city system.

The smoke, officials stressed, is not toxic, is harmless and has no odor. The smoke does not create a fire hazard.

To prepare homes for the smoke testing, officials as residents to ensure that all drains and traps are filled with water to prevent sewer gases from entering buildings. Residents are urged to ensure all basement drains have water. About three cups of water should be poured in floor and sink drains, filling the traps to prevent smoke from entering the home, they advised.

> *"The smoke, officials stressed, is not toxic, is harmless and has no odor.*

If smoke does enter a home, residents should consult a local licensed plumber. If the smoke can enter the home through the plumbing, there is the potential for dangerous sewer gases to enter the house.

Residents do not need to be at home during the testing and field crews will not need access to homes. The smoke testing crew members will be noticeable documenting the testing, taking photos and measuring distances.

For more information or questions, contact Maya Roots at (313) 563-9774 or Dan Guastella at (313) 234-0307.

Hegira Health partners with Westland police

Credentials of the newest staff member at the Westland Police Department differ from those of most of the other officers.

The Westland department has partnered with Hegira Health to launch a mental health initiative led by a full-time licensed master's level social worker operating from police headquarters. Officials said this initiative will allow officers to help residents with mental health challenges receive help from a well-trained and licensed behavioral health professional. The new resource will also allow officers more time on the street rather than dealing with usually time-consuming mental health situations requiring professional intervention.

Though officers are usually not trained and equipped to address mental health crises, the Westland Police Department responded to an average of 500 mental health calls each year during the last three years, according to statistics provided by the city. According to The Council of State Government (CSG) Justice Center, "These calls can be among the most complex and time-consuming for officers to resolve, redirecting them from addressing other public safety concerns and violent crime … When these calls come into 911/ dispatch, the appropriate community-based resources are often lacking to make referrals, and more understanding is needed to relay accurate information to officers."

Officials said the new initiative is crucial and underscores the immense value Westland continues to place on residents and their needs.

"With this new partnership, we now have a great way to put people in touch with a variety of resources for needs such as substance use disorder, depression, and other concerns. We look forward to the many benefits this initiative will bring to the community and the police department," said Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik.

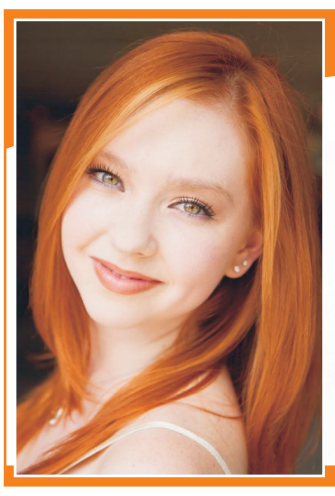
He recalled that in 2021, the department partnered with First Step to have an onsite victim's advocate to help victims of domestic violence. That same year, it also established the Special Victims Unit (SVU) comprising a multidisciplinary team of professionals to provide a victim-centered response to incidents of sexual assault, child abuse and domestic violence. "This nascent partnership with Hegira Health serves as the natural next step and will provide Westland Police with trained and licensed behavioral health clinicians to better assist residents," Jedrusik concluded.

"Hegira Health is one of Michigan's largest freestanding integrated, behavioral healthcare organizations. It is their goal to ensure availability of quality, individualized and rapidly accessible behavioral and primary health services while being dedicated to the diversified needs of the community," noted Mayor William R. Wild. "With this formal partnership, the Westland Police Department now has a dedicated behavioral health clinician that has their own office within the police department."

Westland city and police officials welcome representatives of Hegira Health to the community as the new mental health initiative takes effect in the city. Hegira will have a licensed master's level social worker on call at the police station to handle police calls with a mental-health component.

Ten-hut

City of Wayne Police Chief Ryan Strong recently announced the promotion of Ofc. Matthew Whalen to the rank of sergeant, effective May 11. The new sergeant is a veteran member of the department and has served in several capacities including as a Field Training Officer, defensive tactics Instructor, mobile field force consortium member, and as a taser instructor. Whalen is also a the recipient of a MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) award in which he was recognized for his outstanding commitment to enforcing drunk driving laws.



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Northville

Varied opinions offered in street survey

Shawn Riley is accustomed to appearing before crowds in his role as a singer and musician, but the audience during the recent Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and Northville City Council public forum was somewhat different.

The May 9 meeting, chaired by Riley, a DDA member, was an effort to garner public sentiment regarding street closures in downtown Northville. Currently closed to traffic in the city are East Main Street from North Center to Hutton and North Center from East Main to Dunlap. Authorization for those closures will expire Nov. 1.

A recent survey conducted by the DDA sought input from the community on whether or not the downtown street closures should continue (in some form) or reopen to vehicular traffic. Survey results, presented by Joe Blair, of Carlisle Wortman Associates, drew 4,053 responses. Of those, 74 percent were in favor of closures of either one or both streets and the vast majority or 80 percent wanted to keep the current downtown social district. Fifty-three percent of respondents wanted to expand the social district which will continue in the near future, regardless of any decision regarding street closures. Survey results, including an extensive array of written comments, are posted on the DDA website.

> *We are pleased with the number of responses that we received from both the residential and business community.*

"We are pleased with the number of responses that we received from both the residential and business community. Their participation will provide important feedback to the DDA and city council as we make decisions that will impact our community," said DDA Director Lori Ward.

Approximately 20 people out of 75 in the audience - in person and on Zoom - expressed their thoughts about downtown Northville. Several wanted to see a better-looking streetscape - improve the appearance at the social district entrances. One longtime resident said traffic on the secondary streets is congested and drivers get impatient with all of the stop signs. Several said they liked the European feel, but one respondent said he and his family want a return to small town America with streets open to traffic.

Several said it's important to look at lasting solutions, especially to help downtown retailers, services and restaurants thrive. It's more than just those two streets that need consideration, others said, there should be a balanced solution for better traffic distribution along with input from traffic engineers.

Initially, the streets were closed due to pandemic restrictions that limited the number of people allowed inside businesses.

The closed streets resulted in a greater surface area for social distancing and downtown restaurants and retailers were permitted to expand their outdoor dining and retail presence to help maintain sales during a difficult time. Northville was one of the first cities in the state to establish a social district, officials said.

When a decision is reached, the DDA board members are expected to take a recommendation to the June 6 meeting of the members of the city council.

For more information or comments, contact the DDA office at lward@ci.northville.mi.us or (248) 349-0345.

Restaurants expanded into the street with street closures. Photo by DDA.

5 arrested in building fires

Five suspects were arrested by Northville Township Police following a fire at Legacy Park May 11.

Police and fire departments responded to a report of black smoke in the air at the Seven Mile Road location.

When they arrived at the scene, first responders discovered two buildings on the former site of the state psychiatric hospital fully engulfed in flames, according to police reports of the incident.

Five individuals who appeared to be attempting to flee the area were detained by police officers. Following a preliminary investigation and interviews, the five were taken into police custody and transported to the Northville Township Police Department. Following interviews of the suspects by members of the detective bureau, investigators determined the fires had been deliberately set.

Police have submitted their investigative results to the office of the Wayne County Prosecutor for review and pending charges.

The hospital was open from 1952 until 2003. In the years since it was closed, the property which is owned by Northville Township has become a mecca for urban adventurists and ghost-hunters.

After hundreds were arrested annually for trespassing, township officials established a zero-tolerance policy and regularly monitor social media sites for postings about the property.

On the money

Township reporting honored

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada has awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to Northville Township. This is the ninth consecutive year the township finance office has been honored with the distinction.

The township financial report was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate the financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management, according to the GFOA website.

Township officials said the award validates the efforts to lead "our future confidently with sound financial operational planning."

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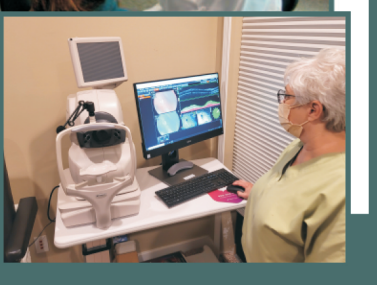

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